



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

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**Newport's Historic Eisenhower House
to be Restored and Revitalized**

Underutilized cultural asset to be repurposed for year-round use

Providence, R.I. – The Rhode Island Department of Administration (RIDOA) announced today its role in the restoration and revitalization of the historic Eisenhower House in Newport, which currently is managed by the Rhode Island Historic Preservation and Heritage Commission.

When the renovations are completed, the former summer residence will be winterized and become a year-round venue for social and corporate events. The increased use will produce an expanded revenue stream for the State.

“The Eisenhower House is one of Newport’s historic treasures, and I am glad that we are transforming it into an asset for Rhode Islanders to use year-round,” Governor Lincoln D. Chafee said. “Projects such as this one not only help with economic development by creating jobs but increase the revenue stream to the state.”

“The Eisenhower House is an ideal location for many events,” stated Director of Administration Richard A. Licht. “I am grateful for the hard work of the state employees overseeing the restoration and revitalization of this historic property. As a result, we will be able to open up this beautiful space to many more Rhode Islanders and visitors to our state.”

“The potential for this property is enormous. It is one of Rhode Island’s treasures with world-class water views and historic architecture,” Ronald N. Renaud, Executive Director of RIDOA said. “The intent of the renovation project is to expand the use of the house from mainly the summer season to all four seasons.”

The RIDOA Division of Capital Projects and Property Management will oversee the project, which is in the design stage. The architects are Providence’s Brewster Thornton Group Architects.

The Eisenhower House, designed by Newport architects George C. Mason & Son in 1873, boasts grounds that command breathtaking views of Newport Harbor and Narragansett Bay. The house, which is a historic site listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is named for its most famous summer resident, President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who vacationed there during the summer of 1958 and 1960.

In 1964, the United States Navy transferred Fort Adams and the Eisenhower House to the State of Rhode Island to be used as a State park. Since then, the property has been the setting for public and private social events only during the summer.

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